

FACULTY *& friends*

Martin Riseley, violin
Alycia Au, violin
Aaron Au, viola
Tanya Prochazka, cello
Jacques Després, piano

Friday, September 7, 2001 at 8:00 pm



**Convocation
Hall**

**Arts Building
University of Alberta**

Program

Serenade for String Quartet (1887)
Sehr lebhaft

Hugo Wolf
(1860-1903)

String Quartet in A Minor,
No. 13, Op. 29 (804) (1824)
Allegro ma non troppo
Andante
Menuetto, Allegretto
Allegro moderato

Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

Martin Riseley and Alycia Au, violins
Aaron Au, viola
Tanya Prochazka, cello

Intermission

Quintet for Piano and String Quartet
in A Major, Op. 81 (1887)
Allegro, ma non tanto
Andante con moto (Dumka)
Molto vivace (Scherzo-Furiant)
Allegro (Finale)

Antonin Dvořák
(1841-1904)

Martin Riseley and Alycia Au, violins
Aaron Au, viola
Tanya Prochazka, cello
Jacques Després, piano

A native of New Zealand, **Martin Riseley** began violin studies at the age of six, and gave his first solo concert when he was ten. After several years of study with the English violinist Carl Pini, he entered the University of Canterbury School of Music as a pupil of Polish violinist Jan Tawroszewicz in 1986, with whom he performed in the Vivo String Quartet in 1987-88. The group received a special award from Lord Yehudi Menuhin at the 1988 Portsmouth String Quartet Competition, the same year that he won the Television New Zealand Young Musicians Competition and Australian Guarantee Corporation Young Achievers Award. Upon graduating with a Bachelor of Music degree he went to the Juilliard School in 1989 where he studied with Dorothy DeLay and Piotr Milewski. His coaches there included Felix Galimir, Joel Smirnoff, Samuel Rhodes, Harvey Shapiro, and Paul Zukovsky. In 1991 he graduated from Juilliard with a Master of Music degree, and in 1996 with his Doctorate of Musical Arts degree.

He has performed with most leading New Zealand orchestras and played recitals throughout the country with pianist Maurice Till, as well as radio and television recordings. Having performed also in Australia, Great Britain and Mexico, he appeared in recital with Maurice Till in Osaka and Kurashiki, Japan, in July 1993. They have also appeared at Temple Square, Salt Lake City, Utah and at Paul Hall, New York. In 1994 they performed the cycle of Beethoven sonatas for sell-out audiences in Christchurch, New Zealand. Martin Riseley has also performed in recital with pianists such as Michael Houston, Jon Kimura Parker and Stephane Lemelin

Martin Riseley assisted Dorothy DeLay as a teaching fellow in the Pre-College Division of Juilliard while in New York, and taught at the 92nd Street 'Y'. He was also soloist and concertmaster with the Chamber Players of the Juilliard School in their Merkin Hall debut, and in Alice Tully Hall as part of the Mozart Bicentennial celebrations at Lincoln Center. In 1993 he performed in a Young Artists Concert of the Chamber Society of Lincoln Center with violist Paul Neubauer. He was guest concertmaster in 1993 of the Greenwich Symphony, Connecticut, and also of the New York Chamber Ensemble during their residency at the Cape May Music Festival, New Jersey in May 1993.

Martin Riseley has been Concertmaster of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra since 1994, and has performed concertos under conductors such as Grzegorz Nowak, Enrique Batiz, Uri Mayer, Leif Segerstam, Enrique Barrios, and Jorge Mester, and his solo and chamber concerts have appeared on National Radio. He recently gave the North American premiere of the Violin Concerto by Gavin Bryars, and played the Chaconne from the "Red Violin" by John Corigliano at the ESO's summer festival. A concerto, written for him by the New Zealand composer Christopher Blake, will be premiered in 2002, as will a concerto by the ESO's composer-in-residence, Allan Gilliland. He is currently Artist-in-Residence at the Department of Music at the University of Alberta, where with fellow faculty members Stephane Lemelin and Tanya Prochazka they surveyed the complete literature for piano and strings by Brahms last season, and will this year perform the trios of Beethoven. He was also a resident performer at the 2000 Ottawa Chamber Music Festival, where he appeared in concert with Andres Diaz, Andrew Dawes and the St. Lawrence String

Quartet. He returned to the Festival this year to perform with Jane Coop and Amanda Forsyth, among others. In the fall, he is scheduled to perform the Schubert Quintet and the Schumann Piano Quintet with Pinchas Zukerman, Amanda Forsyth and Jon Kimura Parker at the National Arts Center in Ottawa.

Alycia Au recently graduated from the University of British Columbia with a Bachelor of Violin Performance degree, where she graduated Head of the Class. She has seen much success as soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player. Alycia has won many competitions at the local and provincial level and has been featured as soloist with the UBC Symphony Orchestra, National Arts Centre and the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. Alycia was the violinist of the Bridge Trio, who won the 1993 CIBC National Music Festival and then went on to record for CBC's regional broadcast. She has also had the opportunity to travel three years with the National Youth Orchestra of Canada and presently serves as the concertmaster of the UBC Symphony Orchestra. Alycia is currently in the Master of Music program at the University of Alberta, where she studies with Martin Riseley. Her former teacher include Andrew Dawes and Robert Bordston.

A native of Lethbridge, **Aaron Au** is currently a member of the first violin section of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra as well as an instructor of violin and viola at the University of Alberta. Aaron studied violin and viola performance under Gerald Stanick and Andrew Dawes at the University of British Columbia. With the support of the Johann Strauss Foundation, Aaron studied violin and viola under Thomas Riebl and Claudia Bussian at the Universitat Mozarteum in Salzburg. Aaron has won various competitions including the 1993 CIBC National Music Festival, when he was violist of the Bridge Trio. Aaron has attended the National Youth Orchestra of Canada sessions 1992-1994 and 1996 and performed as concertmaster of trans-Canada and Japan tours.

Cellist **Tanya Prochazka** has a remarkably varied international career as soloist, chamber musician, freelance player and teacher.

Since arriving in Edmonton, Canada in 1986, Ms Prochazka has become one of Canada's leading cellists. She performs widely as a soloist, and chamber and freelance musician. Her repertoire ranges from the Baroque period through the 20th century. She broadcasts frequently on CBC radio and regularly collaborates with such artists as Stéphane Lemelin, Jacques Israelievitch, Erika Raum, Janet Scott Hoyt and Brachi Tilles. Ms Prochazka is a founding member of Menage a Trio, with Mr. Lemelin and Martin Riseley. She continues her international performing career, playing in Germany, Russia, the U.S. and Australia.

In the last two years Ms Prochazka's concert schedule included the Complete Sonatas for Cello and Piano by Beethoven, with pianist Stéphane Lemelin, in single concert performances. As well, with Menage a Trio, she performed the Complete String and Piano Chamber Music of Johannes Brahms. Other highlights of the recent concert season were concerto performances with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Duo Recitals with Ms. Tilles and Mr. Israelievitch and concerts of 20th century String Quartets with the Beau Quartet of Calgary.

Ms Prochazka is highly regarded as a devoted cello and string teacher. She taught at the Royal Academy of Music and at the Guildhall School of Music in London. Since 1987, she has taught at the University of Alberta and at Alberta College, in Edmonton, Canada. In July 1998 she was appointed Professor of Cello, Strings, and Chamber Music at the University of Alberta, where she is also Conductor of the university's Academy Strings Orchestra. In May 2000, she led the Academy Strings Orchestra on a tour of British Columbia.

Ms Prochazka conducts cello master classes and string workshops wherever her concerts take her. This includes classes in Chicago, Melbourne, Winnipeg, Regina, Ottawa and Freiburg, Germany. In June 2000 Ms Prochazka was Resident Artist for the String Program at the Australian National Academy of Music, in Melbourne. She is also in demand as a competition jury member and string festival adjudicator.

Born in Melbourne, Australia, Ms Prochazka pursued her studies at the Paris Conservatoire with Andre Navarra and in Bloomington, Indiana with Janos Starker. Her early professional activities took her to Vienna, Austria. From Vienna, as cellist with Ensemble I, she performed throughout Europe, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and Australia. Subsequently, as a resident of London, England, she performed throughout Britain as soloist and chamber musician and regularly for the BBC in recitals and chamber music concerts.

Ms Prochazka has gathered a number of prizes at prestigious competitions: Australian Broadcasting Commission Concerto Competition, Cassado Competition in Florence, Italy, International Tribune in Czechoslovakia, semi-finalist at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, the Suggia Prize in London.

Ms Prochazka is an active recording artist for the ATMA and ARKTOS labels. Her most recent CD recording with pianist Stéphane Lemelin, "American Cello Masterpieces" (ATMA) has received wide critical acclaim, as has the CD "Landsmal" (ARKTOS), music by Grieg, with pianist Milton Schlosser and soprano Kathleen Lotz. Her newest recording of Canadian Solo Cello works by Fisher and Ho appears on "Stringtime" (ECLECTRA), recently released.

Widely acclaimed pianist **Jacques Després** has dazzled audiences for over two decades in his native Canada and the U.S. with his sensitive yet powerful style and sympathetic interpretations of a broad range of composers. Respected American critic Leslie Gerber took notice of this versatility by writing, "Few major pianists have given equally convincing performances of Beethoven and Chopin. The ability to play one composer's music very well seems almost to preclude doing as well with the other. But Després proved an exception to this rule...He immediately showed that he is a Bartok player after the composer's own heart."

Since his debut with the Montréal Orchestra Symphony Orchestra in 1978, Mr Després has appeared as soloist with many other symphony orchestras under the baton of conductors including Otto-Werner Muller, Franz-Paul Decker, Jens Nygaard and Simon Streatfield. He also shared the stage, in gala concerts, with internationally renowned pianists Radu Lupu, Lazar Berman, Ilana Vered, David Owen Norris, and

Nicolai Petrov. Mr Després' tours have included numerous recitals in Canada aired on CBC radio, and performances at summer festivals in North America.

Mr Després has established a solid reputation as a leading lecture-performance artist on both period and modern instruments. He was invited to speak on the Chopin Ballades at the Juilliard School, the early sonatas of Beethoven at the yearly Friends of the Arts Beethoven Festival on Long Island and the Bartók Mikrokosmos at Vanderbilt University.

The long list of Mr Després' prestigious awards includes: The Frank Kopp Memorial Prize at the University of Maryland International Piano Competition; First Prize at the Montreal Symphony Orchestra Competition; and the Musical Academy of Quebec "Prix d'Europe" competition. He is also the recipient of numerous grants from the Juilliard School, the Quebec ministries of Education and Cultural Affairs, and the Canada Council.

Després was the musical director of Summer Serenades, a four-week lecture-concert series at the University of Stony Brook's Staller Center. This imaginative series won an enormous following due in large part to Després performances, his lucid and illustrative pre-concert lectures, and his creative programming. The series not only delivered compelling solo and chamber music performances from the standard repertoire; it also gave voice to such neglected composers as Clara Schumann, Alma Mahler-Werfel, and Federico Garcia Lorca to name but a few.

Mr Després completed his doctorate at the State University of New York at Stony Brook and holds a Masters degree from the Juilliard School of Music. He received with High Distinction the Artist Diploma from Indiana University, and was awarded a unanimous first prize from the Conservatory of Quebec, which invited him to perform recitals commemorating the school's 40th and 50th anniversaries. He studied under many of the great masters including György Sebök, Gilbert Kalish, Adele Marcus, William Masselos and Christiane Sénart. Mr Després has taught at Western Washington University and in the fall 2000, joined the Music Department of the University of Alberta in Edmonton. He also has recorded solo piano repertoire for the Eroica, VDE/Gallo and Naxos CD labels.



The Department of
Music will donate \$500
from the ticket proceeds
of this concert to the
United Way



Upcoming Events:

September

21 Friday, 8:00 pm

Music at Convocation Hall

Marnie Giesbrecht, organ

Best loved organ works by JS Bach, Mendelssohn and Widor

Admission: \$7/student/senior, \$12/adult

22 Saturday 8:00 pm

Faculty Recital

Tanya Prochazka, solo cello

24 Monday 12:00 pm

Noon-Hour Organ Recital

The recital presents a variety of organ repertoire played by students, faculty and guests of the University of Alberta Department of Music. Free admission

25 Tuesday, 3:30 pm

Lecture/Demonstration

James Jordan, Distinguished Visitor

"The Musician's Soul". Free admission

29 Saturday, 1:00 pm

Lecture/Demonstration

James Jordan, Distinguished Visitor

"Aspects of Choral Conducting"

Fine Arts Building 1-29. Free admission

29 Saturday, 8:00 pm

Faculty Recital

Roger Admiral, piano

Stravinsky Four Etudes, Serenade in A

Feldman Piano, Oesterle november,

Ayres No. 16

October

1 Monday, 12:10 pm

Music at Noon, Convocation Hall

Student Recital Series featuring students from the Department of Music. Free admission

2 Tuesday, 8:00 pm

The University of Alberta

Academy Strings. Tanya Prochazka,

conductor, with Chamber Winds

Malcolm Forsyth, conductor

5 Friday, 8:00 pm

Faculty and Friends

The Primavera Trio

Hiromi Takahashi, oboe; John

Mahon, clarinet; Diane Persson,

bassoon; with guests Christine Enns,

flute; Gerald Onciul, French horn

and Ayako Tsuruta, piano

Canteloube Trio for oboe, clarinet

and bassoon, Ibert Trio for oboe,

clarinet and bassoon, Milhaud Trio for

oboe, clarinet and bassoon,

von Herzogenberg Trio for oboe, horn

and piano, Dring Trio for flute,

oboe and piano

Admission: \$7/student/senior, \$12/adult

14 Saturday, 2:00 pm

The third annual Alumni Reunion

Concert featuring Music Department

Alumni

Unless otherwise indicated

Admission: \$5/student/senior, \$10/adult,

Convocation Hall, Arts Building

Please note: All concerts and events are subject to change without notice. Please call 492-0601 to confirm concerts (after office hours a recorded message will inform you of any changes to our schedule).



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